

## **Building Department sees start of busy construction season!**

With the mild spring weather and summer just around the corner, the construction season has begun to pick up. Many homeowners are getting ready to put their winter plans into action and start their summer building projects. A strong commercial building industry continues with an increase in residential permits as well. Mahoning County Building Inspection is ready to assist contractors and homeowners in obtaining their permits and provide the required inspections for the work being done.

### **Why do I need a permit?**

Building permits provide a means for the Code Official to protect the public from unsafe and unsanitary conditions resulting from substandard construction. Not only does this maintain the value of your home, but also others within our community. Building codes contain minimum standards of construction, which have been developed over many years and cover all aspects of construction. Each requirement exists to prevent unsafe, unsanitary or deteriorating conditions in both residential and commercial buildings. The Building Department was formed in 1958. In 1998, a special revenue fund was established from the permit fees we collect, these monies are used solely to operate this department and ensures that the safety services we provide will be funded. There are no tax revenues in our yearly budget and every effort is made to keep fees as low as possible.

### **When is a permit required?**

A building permit is required for new construction, alterations, additions, accessory structures, movement of structures, enlargement, change of occupancy, sign construction/replacement, swimming pools and demolition of structures. General maintenance and some types of projects do not require a building permit, i.e., painting, tiling, cabinets and counter tops, swings and play ground equipment, fences less than six feet in height. As always, it is best to call our office to see if your project requires a permit or if you have any questions on building in Mahoning County.

### **Current Building Codes**

The current building code for all commercial construction is the: Ohio Building Code 2005 edition and the residential code currently adopted in Mahoning County is the 2004 Residential Code of Ohio. We review, permit and inspect all new, remodeled and existing buildings by ensuring they are constructed used in accordance with the State of Ohio mandated codes.

### **Our commitment to Mahoning County**

We are committed to helping both contractors and homeowners with all their planning, permitting and inspection needs and will continue to provide prompt quality service and promote safe buildings for both our residents and for people who visit and work in Mahoning County. We fully respect any comments or suggestions that you may have on enhancing the services we provide. To better serve our community we are centrally located at:

Mahoning County Building Inspection  
50 Westchester Dr. Austintown, Ohio 44515  
Ph 330.270.2894 Fax 330.270.2898